

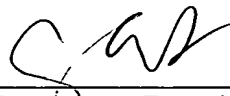
## REMARKS

The claims have been amended only to eliminate multiple dependencies and to conform to U.S. practice. Claim 31 has been added, support for which is found in claim 27. No new matter has been added and entry of the amendment is respectfully requested.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket No. 246152024400.

Dated: December 7, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By   
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